Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MEXICO 06682 041745Z
ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 DEAE-00 CIAE-00
INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00
USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15
DHA-02 /071 W
----------050501Z 130286 /20
R 041737Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1920
INFO ALL USCONS MEXICO BY POUCH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 06682

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, PFOR, MX, US
SUBJECT: GOM COMMENTS ON NY TIMES MAGAZINE ARTICLE AND ON FUTURE RELEASE OF NARCOTICS PRISONERS

1. DURING BRIEFING OF NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE VISITORS MAY 3, UNDERSECRETARY FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS DE OLLOQUI EXPRESSED HIGH DEGREE OF DISPLEASURE AND IRRITATION OVER MAY 1 NY TIMES MAGAZINE ARTICLE TITLED "BUSTED IN MEXICO". HE DESCRIBED AUTHOR DAVID HARRIS AS "WELL-KNOWN LEFTIST OF THE 1960'S (HE MAY BE CONFUSING HIM WITH MARK HARRIS, AUTHOR OF A 1964 BOOK CRITICAL OF RICHARD NIXON) AND STATED THAT ARTICLE WOULD DO MILLIONS OF DOLLARS DAMAGE TO US TOURISM TO MEXICO, ASKING RHETORICALLY, "IF YOU WERE A POTENTIAL TOURIST, WOULD YOU COME TO A COUNTRY WHERE THINGS LIKE THAT ARE REPORTED TO HAVE HAPPENED?" DE OLLOQUI SAID HE HAD BEGUN DRAFTING A LETTER TO THE NY TIMES BUT HAD BEEN CALLED OFF, AND HE MENTIONED THAT HE THOUGHT ABOUT INSTITUTING A SUIT AGAINST HARRIS, SINCE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MEXICO 06682 041745Z

SOME OF THE PERSONS HE MENTIONS UNDER PSEUDONYMS ARE IDENTIFIABLE, BUT INDICATED HE WOULD NOT DO SO. THE LAST REMARK ILLUSTRATES HIS EMOTIONAL REACTION AND HIS RESENTMENT OVER WHAT HE FEELS IS BIASED AND IRRESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM.

2. OF MORE IMPORTANCE IS DE OLLOQUI'S REQUEST THAT

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

EMBOFFS CONVEY TO DEPARTMENT THAT GOM WILL BE MOVING AHEAD ON ITS PLAN TO RELEASE DETAINEES AND RPT AND PRISONERS WHOSE CRIME IS POSSESSION FOR THEIR OWN USE OF SMALL QUANTITIES OF MARIJUANA. HE STATED THAT A TOTAL OF ABOUT 2000 INDIVIDUALS, BOTH THOSE CHARGED AND THOSE ACTUALLY SERVING SENTENCES, WOULD BE RELEASED, AND THAT "CONSIDERABLE NUMBER" OF THEM WOULD BE AMERICANS. HE SAID THAT WORK ON THESE CASES WOULD CONTINUE AND THEY WOULD BE FREED, BUT THAT IN VIEW OF THE TIMES MAGAZINE ARTICLE, NOTHING WOULD BE DONE FOR TWO TO THREE WEEKS, SINCE THE GOM COULD NOT APPEAR TO BE REACTING TO THE TIMES STORY.

3. COMMENT: FIGURE OF 2000 THAT DE OLLOQUI CITED IS EVIDENTLY A GLOBAL FIGURE, INCLUDING MEXICANS AS WELL AS ALL OTHERS. ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS USED SAME FIGURE IN CONVERSATIONS WITH EMBOFFS. CONSULAR ESTIMATE IS THAT UP TO 50 AMERICANS CURRENTLY BEING HELD MIGHT BENEFIT FROM THIS GOM ACTION ONCE APPROVED. DE OLLOQUI DID NOT MAKE THE DISTINCTION THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS MADE IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH CONSUL GENERAL, NAMELY THAT RELIEF WOULD BE GRANTED IN CASES WHERE APPEAL IS STILL PENDING AND WHERE ATTORNEY GENERAL CAN DIRECT THAT CHARGES BE DROPPED ON APPEAL. THOMPSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MEXICO06682
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770157-0634
Format: TEL
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770596/aaaaderd.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 827e169b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2645771
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOM COMMENTS ON NY TIMES MAGAZINE ARTICLE AND ON FUTURE RELEASE OF NARCOTICS PRISONERS
TAGS: CASC, PFOR, MX, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/827e169b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009